

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 038565
ORIGIN SS-25

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S/S - MR. GAMBLE
NEA/ARN:MDRAPER

-----191129 110108 /22

R 190223Z FEB 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
INFO USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY ANKARA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 038565

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, SREF, IR, IZ

SUBJECT: CONTACT WITH KURDISH REFUGEE SPOKESMAN

REF: (A) TEHRAN 1073 (B) BAGHDAD 267

1. WE HAVE NO INFORMATION THAT WOULD HELP EXPLAIN ALI-SULAIMAN'S CONTACT WITH EMBASSY TEHRAN. SULAIMAN IS KNOWN TO BARZANI'S GROUP HERE BUT THEY HAVE VOLUNTEERED NOTHING OF THEIR PRESENT ASSOCIATION WITH HIM. SULAIMAN WAS FORMERLY A KURDISH DEMOCRATIC PARTY OFFICER. HE WAS ALSO AN IRAQI GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL AS HE NOTED. MAY HAVE BEEN GRADUATE OF U.S. COLLEGE.

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2. WE FORESEE NO MAJOR PROBLEM IN KURDISH LIAISON OFFICER CONTACTS WITH EMBASSY FROM TIME TO TIME. EMBASSY SHOULD BE CAREFUL, HOWEVER, NOT TO PROBE FOR INFORMATION ON KURDISH ACTIVITIES OR KURDISH POLITICS IN A WAY THAT MIGHT LEAD HIM TO SUSPECT THERE IS TACIT U.S. SUPPORT FOR, AS OPPOSED TO NORMAL INTEREST IN, KURDISH INSURRECTIONARY ACTIVITIES IN IRAQ. THE IRAQIS REMAIN HIGHLY SUSPICIOUS

OF U.S. POLICIES TOWARD THE KURDS AND HAVE CHARGED US WITH COMPLICITY IN THE PRESENT INSURRECTIONARY AND RESISTANCE ACTIVITIES IN IRAQ. THEY ARE ALSO SUSPICIOUS OF

OUR ROLE IN RESETTLING KURDS IN THE U.S. THEY PROBABLY WILL EVENTUALLY LEARN OF THESE CONTACTS.

3. SPECIFIC QUESTIONS FROM ALI-SULAIMAN, FOR EXAMPLE, ON FUTURE EXPANSION OF KURDISH REFUGEE MOVEMENTS TO THE U.S., WILL HAVE TO BE REFERRED TO THE DEPARTMENT (WE EXPECT TO PROVIDE YOU SOON GUIDANCE RE OUR SETTTLING SOME ADDITIONAL KURDS IN THE U.S.).

4. AS YOUR DIALOGUE WITH ALI-SULAIMAN PROCEEDS, THE SUBJECTS POSED BY BAGHDAD (BAGHDAD 267) WOULD BE WORTH EXPLORING, BUT WE BELIEVE YOU SHOULD MOVE SLOWLY.

5. ALI-SULAIMAN'S INFORMATION THAT MASOUD BARZANI HAD GONE TO THE U.S. (WITH HIS FATHER) IS TRUE; HOWEVER, MASOUD LEFT THE U.S. FOR EUROPE ABOUT FIVE MONTHS AGO AND HAS NOT RETURNED. WE HAVE FAIRLY RELIABLE INFORMATION THAT MASOUD HAS RECENTLY BEEN IN SYRIA AND PERHAPS IRAQ, BUT THIS SHOULD NOT BE DISCLOSED TO ALI-SULAIMAN.

HARTMAN

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Message Attributes

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